(a) whether Government is aware that there are more than 16000 applications pending with credit rating agencies like CRISIL, CARE, FITCH and Dunand Bradstreet till September, 2009; and

(b) if so, the steps, Government is taking to clear this waitlist urgently?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) No Sir, under "Performance and Credit Rating Scheme" of the Ministry, there were only 1374 applications pending with different rating agencies, as on 30th September, 2009.

(b) The rating agencies are required to complete the exercise of evaluation and award of rating within one month from the date of receipt of all information from the applicant micro & small enterprises.

Further, the Government subsidy (75% of the rating fee, subject to maximum of Rs. 40,000/-) under the scheme is released to the Rating agency only after award of rating and submission of the rating report.

Setting up of a task force to promote MSMEs

3348. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO:

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has set up a high level task force for micro, small and medium enterprises as they are demanding adequate financing and other incentives to tide over economic slowdown;

(b) whether to imbattle financial concerns, MSMEs representatives have met PM divulging details;

(c) if so, whether after meeting, PM has announced for setting up a task force to look into the problems and demands of the sector;

(d) if so, by when task force would give its report; and

(e) by when they are likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e) The Task Force has held a series of meetings to deliberate on the issues/problems of the MSME sector with all the stakeholders and is likely to submit its Report shortly.

Collaboration of KVIC with big industrial houses

3349. SHRI AMIR ALAM KHAN: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state: